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**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend paragraph 077, on page 21, lines 26-30 – Page 22, line 1 as follows:

In one embodiment, the mutation encodes for an alanine residue instead of a methionine residue, such as, for example at position 33 or 51 of the matrix protein (M). In another embodiment, the mutation encodes for the substitution of a glycine serine residue for a serine glycine residue, which may be, for example, at position 226. In another embodiment, the mutation encodes for the substitution of an alanine threonine residue for an alanine threonine residue, such as, for exmaple, at position 133.

Please amend paragraph 222, on page 61, lines 4-11 as follows:

[001] In order to identify which domains are involved in the M protein-induced cytopathic effects, several different M protein mutants were generated. Out of the six individual isolates obtained, all had the same mutations. The mutations resulted in the substitution of a methionine residue for an alanine residue at position 33 (SEQ ID NO: 1), and in the substitution of a methionine for an alanine residue at position 51 (SEQ ID NO: 2). Further substitutions included replacement of an alanine a threonine residue by a threonine an alanine residue at position 133 (SEQ ID NO: 3); and replacement of a glycine serine residue by a serine glycine residue at position 226 (SEQ ID NO: 4) (Figure 3).

Please insert the Sequence Listing attached hereto as Appendix A, after the Abstract.